

Manoa PTO Meeting
Tuesday, January 16, 2018
School Library at 7pm

<http://www.manoapto.org/>

https://www.facebook.com/search/top/?q=manoa_pto

Call to order – Iain McClements

In Attendance – Iain McClements, Tobie Stallings, Alexis Pasternak, Alex McClearn, Betsy Berkey, Dr. Ramoundos, Kristin Simmons, Debbie Politano, Patty Trider, Renee Lawler, Steph Kelly, Julianne Theodoropoulos, Wendy Black Dorn, Heather Chickery, Christel DiVincenzo, Jessica Smith

Last meeting minutes approved – Betsy Berkey approved at 7:03.

Opening Welcome Message – Iain McClements

Officer Reports

Principal Report – Dr. Ramoundos

- Happy New Year!
- Thank you for the holiday donation, about \$1400! We're going to get Character Counts banners
- Please help get the word out about morning arrival – only stop in the right lane, not the left. Kids should get out on the right side of the car. No U-turn in the side parking lot.
- Pre-approved arranged absences sheets can be found on Manoa's website
- Next assembly will be about trustworthiness
- Hat day/spirit day on Friday!

Manoa Faculty Report – Mrs. Smith

- No pressing questions or concerns
- Thank you for the email updates they are always appreciated by faculty

Treasurer's Report – Alex McClearn: Financial Review

- Budget is printed and available at this meeting
- We have updated the spreadsheet with the holiday fund and holiday fair
- We're looking up by \$13,000 right now. We still have some checks to write. By the end of the year we should be close to breaking even.
- Teachers get \$125 each from the Teachers Resource Fund; please send a reminder many teachers still have money to use.
- **VOTE: Can we add the nurse's office to the teacher resource fund? THE PTO UNANIMOUSLY VOTED, YES. The nurse will get \$75**
- Question: Are the special education teachers included? Yes.

Corresponding Secretary – Alexis Pasternak:

- The Holiday Fund raised about \$1400. Thank you! With this money the faculty will purchase banners for the Character Counts assemblies
- About 61 people donated to the Holiday Fund this year

President's Report – Tobie Stallings

- Website – updating with Daria and Liz, what would the 5th grade like under their fundraiser and events tab on the website? Heather says the 5th grade fundraising chairs will meet next week and decide at that meeting.
- Event reports – there is an updated version of the report from last year on the website. It covers the same information as the old one, but has more space for writing, and can be filled out online. Tobie will email it to all the chairs.

Standing Items

Fifth Grade Fundraiser and Events – Heather Chickery, Patty Tripler

- Meeting next week to decide about 2 more events
- We've raised about \$972 so far
- We're going to give something to each teacher from their wish list
- We'll report at the February PTO meeting about our progress
- T-shirt contest is coming up in March, Miss Lavin will choose the winner, we'll need white t-shirts

Spiritwear – Anita Newby

- \$205 at the winter sale and we're looking for different choices for the next sale

Yearbook – Tobie Stallings

- Link is live! \$15 until the end of February after which the price goes up to \$20
- People expressed concern that they were not available to pre-order and pay for yearbooks at back-to-school night

Assemblies – Leila Bannister

- Harlem Wizards – trying to get this assembly for early/mid February
- Musicopia for Kindergarteners; it's geared to younger kids
- Kids interactive theater – something to keep in mind
- Laser show assembly was proposed
- Spring assemblies will be mid-February and then again in May

Review

Young Writer's Day, 12/1 - Steph Kelly

- Went well, although one author had to cancel for personal reasons at the last minute
- Everything else went really well and Vaishali Vora will take over next year.

Young Writer's Day Luncheon 12/1 – Tobie Stallings

- A successful event!

Holiday Fair 12/2 -Heather Chickery

- Raised about \$3000 and came in about \$500 under budget!
- Thinking about using Oriental Trading next year for the kids holiday shop
- Bake sale was great! We're going to have coffee next year.
- We need volunteers! Maybe the Girl Scouts from the bake sale can help with the shop as well?

KidStuff Books – Lisa Jesse

- We only sold about 35 at back-to-school night
- We are way below past sales
- Pass along information for the homeroom parents to share with families in the classroom meetings is an idea for next year
- Have tables at the back-to-school social

Rising 6th graders! Contact Betsy Toner at toner92@yahoo.com if you are interested in being a Middle School volunteer!!!

Preview

Family Reading Night 1/26 – Debbie Politano and Kristin Simmons

- Sign-ups are going well for volunteers
- Few slots left for cookie donations
- We'll have a book donation as well, which will go to a school in Philadelphia

Gardening – Wendy Black Dorn

- There are 3 sections of gardens: a recognition garden, teaching garden, and butterfly garden. Mr. Robarge is the teacher sponsor. The PTO money goes towards purchasing mums and annuals.
- It takes a lot of hours to maintain the garden. We could use volunteers!
- The school needs to think about what they want to do with the garden long term. Do teachers want to have it be part of the classroom curricula?

Bingo – Christel DiVincenzo

- February 9 this year and the theme is Mardi Gras!
- Pizza before the event will be a bit different this year. We're thinking of doing a fundraiser with Tony Rony's or Chipotle or Moe's and people eat on their own before hand.

- This way Bingo could start at 7:00 (doors will open around 6:30-6:45) and we'll still have a bake sale and snacks.
- Teacher volunteer email will go out soon!

Variety Show – Helene Conroy

- Needs volunteers!
- Event will be in the evening on April 13

Chipotle –

- April 16-22 are the dates we're hoping to reserve for our next fundraiser

Questions:

Any Other Business

Announcements

Next PTO meeting: Tuesday, February 21, at 7pm in the library

Adjournment

Any item for inclusion on the agenda should be submitted to the President at least 2 days prior to the meeting.

Minutes will be posted to the PTO website www.manoapto.org & Facebook page "Manoa PTO".

Respectfully submitted by Betsy Berkey